

Claim Amendments

Amend the claims as follows:

1-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The device of claim **516** in which the permselective membrane is selected from the group consisting of~~comprising~~ dense metallic and ion transport membranes.

7. (currently amended) The device~~body~~ of claim **16** in which ~~the structure of the body is a~~ monolith having a configuration selected from the group of configurations ~~containing~~consisting of tubular, planar, hollow fiber, and multiple passageway monolith configurations.

8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) The device~~body~~ of claim **816** ~~for which a reaction bond is formed from the reaction of grains of~~ in which the binder precursor comprises an element ~~admixed with the coarse magnesia grains.~~

10. (currently amended) The device~~body~~ of claim **816** in which the magnesia grains have a mean particle size in the range of about 5 to 200 microns.

11. (currently amended) The device~~body~~ of claim **9** in which the element is selected from the group consisting of~~comprising~~ aluminum, silicon, titanium, zirconium, and mixtures thereof.

12. (currently amended) The device~~body~~ of claim **816** in which the green body contains silicon grains and the reaction bond is forsterite.

13. (currently amended) The device~~body~~ of claim **816** in which the green body contains aluminum grains and the reaction bond is spinel.

14. (currently amended) The ~~device~~body of claim ~~816~~ that in which the reaction-bonded body has a volume change from the unsintered green body of less than about five percent.

15. (canceled)

16. (new) A membrane device, comprising:

a porous reaction-bonded magnesia body membrane support having a porosity greater than about 30% and a mean pore size greater than about 1 micron, the membrane support formed by sintering a green body containing coarse magnesia grains and reactive grains of an inorganic binder precursor; and

an inorganic permselective membrane on the membrane support, the membrane suitable for gas separations.